United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Phoenix Field Office
21605 North 7th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85027

IN REPLY REFER TO:
6517 (020)

October 17, 2003

Dear Reader:

The Bureau of Land Management, Phoenix Field Office, is requesting comments on an Environmental Assessment (EA) permitting the Arizona Game and Fish Department to redevelop an existing wildlife (bighorn sheep) water catchment within the Big Horn Mountains Wilderness. The proposed action is to allow the use of Kinnepak explosives to enlarge a developed pothole to make it a perennial water source and to replace the shade structure to make the catchment more compatible with wilderness values. An existing gabion may also be cleaned out and repaired. Due to the very steep and rugged terrain, helicopters will be used to transport materials and personnel to the site.

The purpose of this mailer is to notify interested parties that this EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review during the 30-day public comment period, ending **November 20, 2003**. If you have internet access the EA is available at http://www.az.blm.gov/env_docs/arch_tank/index.htm. If you wish to receive a paper copy of the EA and unsigned FONSI, you may request one by writing to the address at the top of this letter, by e-mailing Lori Young at Lori_Young@blm.gov, or by contacting her by phone at 623-580-5655. Please use the following reference in your correspondence: **EA-AZ 020-2003-0082 Redevelopment of Arch Tank Pothole (#861) in the Big Horn Mountains Wilderness.** If you no longer wish to receive wilderness information, please request in writing, at this address, to be removed from the mailing list.

Public comments will be accepted until November 20, 2003. Comments are most useful when they address requests for clarification, new information that may have a bearing on the environmental analysis and/or errors in the environmental analysis.

Thank you for your interest in public land management.

Sincerely,

/signed/

Teresa A. Raml
Field Manager

Enclosure